

**Question for written answer E-011108/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Pork prices

Since the start of the Russian embargo, the farm-gate price of pork has fallen steadily both in Catalonia and the rest of Spain, to the extent that it is now lower than the estimated production cost. Paradoxically, while producers are being paid less and less for their product, consumer prices have risen constantly during the same period. This situation is totally contradictory and, whether intentionally or not, it is discouraging pork consumption at a critical time when measures are needed to promote it.

In light of the above:

1. How does the Commission explain the fact that consumers are paying ever higher prices for a product for which farm-gate prices have fallen so low that they do not even cover production costs?
2. Can the Commission say whether the situation in Spain is being replicated in the rest of the EU?
3. What action will the Commission take to ensure that the entire supply chain receives a fair share of the product value so that producers are able to survive?